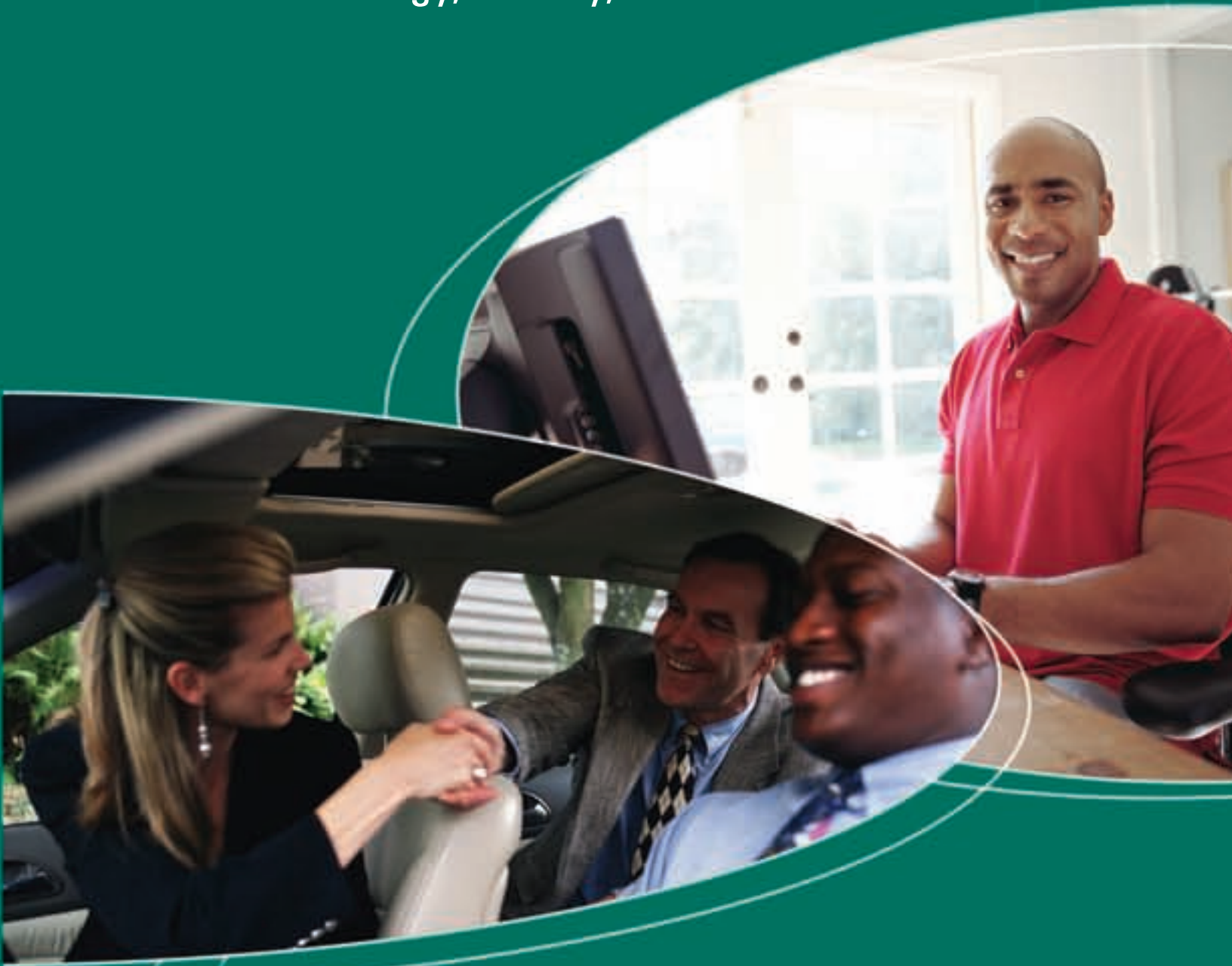


Best Workplaces for CommutersSM

Demonstrating Excellence in Commuting Options
That Save Energy, Money, and the Environment



2001-2005 Progress Report



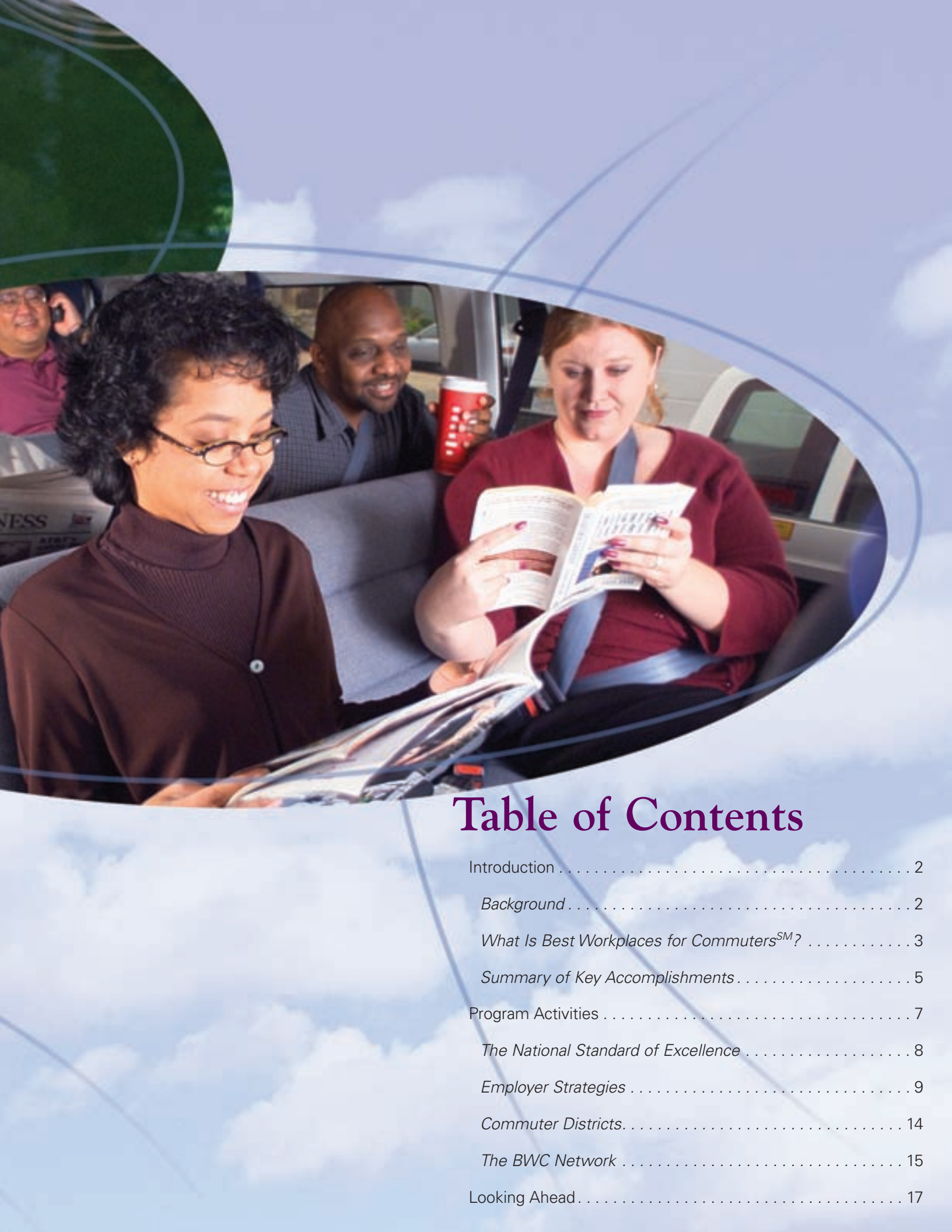


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Introduction

Background

The United States faces an enormous challenge in reconciling the need for mobility with the environmental and economic consequences of our increasing reliance on personal vehicles. Travel statistics illustrate the challenge. The number of miles Americans drive has tripled since 1970 to nearly 3 trillion miles per year, and the rate continues to grow by about 2 percent each year. The continuing growth in vehicle travel has resulted in increased fuel consumption, congestion, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions. Cars burn about 8.5 million barrels of oil per day, 42 percent of total U.S. daily oil consumption. Emissions from passenger vehicles are a major cause of smog in communities across the country, and today's

passenger cars are responsible for one-fifth of U.S. emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂)—more than a billion metric tons annually (2002).

Commute trips to work account for 27 percent of U.S. vehicle travel, and the vast majority of commuters drive to work alone. These numbers, too, are increasing. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the labor force will grow by 15 percent between 2002 and 2012. If today's travel patterns persist, increased travel associated with drive-alone commuting will load the atmosphere with 43 million metric tons of additional CO₂ annually through 2012.



What Is Best Workplaces for CommutersSM?

Best Workplaces for Commuters is an innovative, voluntary, business-government program that encourages employers to offer commuter benefits and incentives to reduce the number of miles driven by employees to and from work. It is the only EPA program specifically designed to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gases and fuel consumption by countering growth in vehicle travel. Through partnerships with public and private employers, transportation planning experts, and others, Best Workplaces for Commuters is demonstrating that alternatives to drive-alone commuting are both economically and environmentally beneficial, yielding value to workers, employers, and our environment. The EPA initiated Best Workplaces for Commuters in 2001.

Best Workplaces for Commuters recognizes employers that offer commuter benefits such as subsidized transit passes, vanpool subsidies, ridematching services, and telework programs. Such incentives encourage employees to choose alternatives to driving to work alone. This practical, non-regulatory approach appeals to both employees and the business community. Employees who change their commuting habits can save time and money and reduce stress. Employers that offer commuter benefits gain a competitive edge in employee recruitment and retention. Employers can also save money by limiting the amount of parking and/or office space they need to provide and by taking advantage of federal tax benefits that encourage alternatives to drive-alone commuting.





Best Workplaces for Commuters is built around four core program areas:

- **The National Standard of Excellence** establishes a nationally recognized benchmark for employers offering outstanding commuter benefits. To earn the Best Workplaces for Commuters designation, employers must meet or exceed the standard.
- **Employer Strategies** develop national partnerships and business leadership resulting in adoption of superior commuter benefits by employers in key metropolitan areas, the largest U.S. companies, and select industries.
- **Commuter Districts** are groups of employers that receive commuter benefits provided by another organization such as a business park, downtown district, developer, or property manager.
- **The BWC Network** is an innovative support system of more than 300 locally based organizations that promote and transfer Best Workplaces for Commuters know-how and best practices to communities and workplaces across the country.

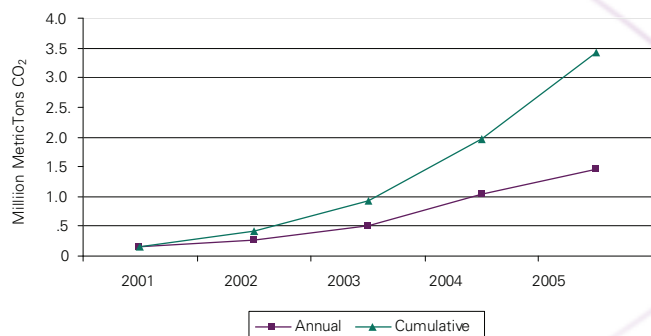
Program indicators at a glance:

Best Workplaces for Commuters has achieved the following:

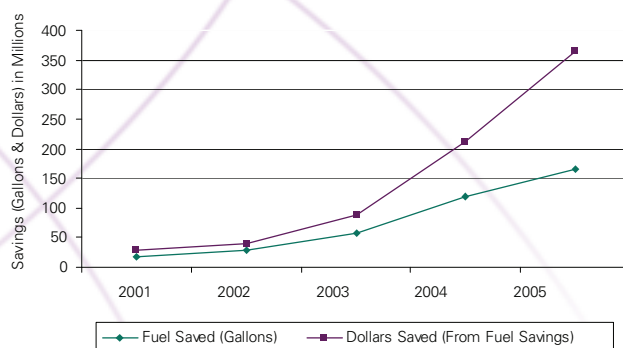
- 1,443 employers have received the Best Workplaces for Commuters designation.
- There are more than 300 BWC Network members.
- 89 FORTUNE 500 companies are represented.
- 2.1 percent of the nation's workforce is covered by commuter benefits that meet the *National Standard of Excellence*.

Today, Best Workplaces for Commuters is a national partnership program involving thousands of participants working to reach the goals of saving energy, making the air cleaner, and reducing traffic congestion. We expect participation to continue to increase substantially as it has in recent years.

Best Workplaces for Commuters CO₂ Reductions



Best Workplaces for Commuters Fuel & Monetary Savings



Summary of Key Accomplishments

Since its inception, Best Workplaces for Commuters has grown consistently. Not only have more employers seen the value of the designation, but local organizations have also acknowledged Best Workplaces for Commuters as a perfect addition to their existing transportation programs. This growth can be attributed to the implementation of activities in the following core program areas:

National Standard of Excellence

- Best Workplaces for Commuters receives support (though the BWC Network) from organizations around the country as a standard in commuter benefits to which employers should aspire.
- Employers recognize the value of meeting this standard and being designated as one of the Best Workplaces for Commuters by using the brand and logo on Web sites, job advertisements, and promotional materials.

Employer Strategies

- The number of participating employers grew more than 25 percent in 2005.
- The number of employees covered grew by more than 40 percent in 2005—from approximately 2 million to nearly 3 million.

- 389 million gallons of fuel have been saved; 3.4 million metric tons of CO₂ have been reduced since the inception of Best Workplaces for Commuters.

- The FORTUNE 500 effort grew by 50 percent in 2005.

Commuter Districts

- The number of districts grew from 12 districts to 20 in 2005.
- The number of employees in districts grew by more than 100 percent in 2005.
- 31 million gallons of fuel have been saved per year.

BWC Network

- Established in 2004.
- Boasts more than 300 members that support and work toward the goal of reducing drive-alone commuting.

Through the implementation of these core program areas, Best Workplaces for Commuters has grown exponentially. The table below illustrates the growth from the first year of Best Workplaces for Commuters through September 2005. The number of commuters covered by the *National Standard of Excellence* is leading to notable reductions in pollutants and gasoline use as well as increased monetary savings.

Environmental and Energy Achievements by Fiscal Year

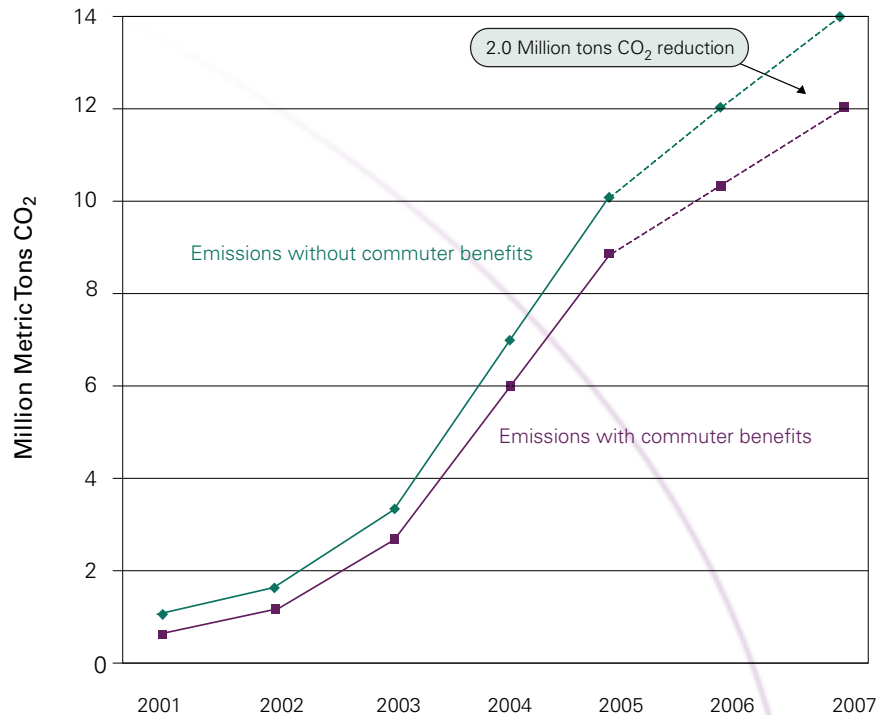
Fiscal Year	Commuters working for BWC Employers	Metric Tons CO ₂ Reduced	Tons NO _x Reduced	Tons VOCs Reduced	Gallons of Gasoline Saved	Dollars Saved*
Oct. 2000 - Sept. 2001	360,000	165,000	400	200	18,745,000	\$28,913,000
Oct. 2001 - Sept. 2002	570,000	261,000	700	400	29,652,000	\$39,293,000
Oct. 2002 - Sept. 2003	1,100,000	500,000	1,400	700	56,804,000	\$89,494,000
Oct. 2003 - Sept. 2004	2,000,000	1,042,000	2,800	1,500	118,429,000	\$211,455,000
Oct. 2004 - Sept. 2005	2,800,000	1,459,000	3,900	2,100	165,801,000	\$364,775,000
Cumulative		3,427,000	9,200	4,900	389,431,000	\$733,930,000

*Dollars saved based on the average of the monthly gas prices for each fiscal year.

2004 Program Evaluation

- A 2004 EPA survey documented that employees who have access to a comprehensive package of commuter benefits are less likely to drive to work alone than counterparts who are not offered these benefits.
- The survey found a 15 percent shift away from drive-alone commuting among employees working at Best Workplaces for Commuters designated worksites, relative to the average for all commuters working in the same zip codes.
- The survey also found that Best Workplaces for Commuters produces an important “spillover effect”: Contractors and temporary employees at designated worksites who are offered some commuter benefits have a drive-alone rate of 7 percentage points lower than the average for all employees working in the same zip codes.

What Best Workplaces for Commuters-Qualified Employers Are Accomplishing



- The graph above illustrates the notable difference in CO₂ emissions from Best Workplaces for Commuters offering commuter benefits meeting EPA's *National Standard of Excellence* and CO₂ emissions from employers not offering these benefits.





Program Activities

As of September 30, 2005, EPA designated more than 1,400 employers in 32 states—representing 26 industry sectors and 2.8 million employees—as Best Workplaces for Commuters. The associated reduction in work-related driving by these employees saves approximately 165 million gallons of gasoline a year, reducing greenhouse gas emissions by nearly 1.5 million metric tons of CO₂ while also reducing nitrogen oxide (NO_x) emissions.

The structure, goals, and achievements of the four core program areas of Best Workplaces for Commuters are described on the following pages.

The *National Standard of Excellence*: Setting the Bar for Employer-Provided Commuter Benefits

The *National Standard of Excellence* for employer-provided commuter benefits is the basis of Best Workplaces for Commuters. The standard establishes a baseline set of benefits that encourage employees to switch from drive-alone commuting to other more environmentally friendly and energy-conscious transportation options.

To meet the *National Standard of Excellence* for commuter benefits, employers must provide:

- Access to an “emergency ride home” (typically, free taxi rides or other emergency transportation for employees who need to leave during the day and do not have a car at work).



Houston-Galveston Area Council

The Houston-Galveston area illustrates the power of a local campaign where a coalition challenges employers to provide commuter benefits to help meet air quality requirements as part of the Voluntary Measure State Implementation Plan. In



August 2005, the third annual Houston Best Workplaces for Commuters list recognized nearly 80 employers that provide superior commuter benefits to 245,000 employees—a 100 percent increase over 2004.

In 2005, the Houston-Galveston area:

- Reduced 112,000 metric tons of CO₂
- Reduced 300 tons of NO_x
- Saved more than 12 million gallons of gasoline
- Saved \$28 million in fuel costs
- Reduced 266 million drive-alone commuting miles

- One or more of the following primary commuter benefits:
 - A transit or vanpool subsidy of at least \$30 per month.
 - Parking “cash-out” of at least \$30 per month (direct cash payments to employees who do not use company parking).
 - Telework program that reduces employee commute trips by at least 6 percent.
 - Employer proposal for a primary commuter benefit that delivers environmental results equivalent to the above options.
- Three supporting commuter benefits such as rideshare or carpool matching, bicycle parking or lockers, or onsite amenities such as dry cleaning or a cafeteria.
- Meet a performance benchmark within 18 months of earning the Best Workplaces for Commuters designation of at least 14 percent of employees not driving alone to work.

Why Establish a National Standard of Excellence?

The *National Standard of Excellence* provides employers, transportation services providers, and commuters with a common benchmark against which commuter benefit programs can be measured. By setting a high standard, Best Workplaces for Commuters encourages employers to upgrade or establish benefits at this level.

Studies have documented that employees who have access to a comprehensive commuter benefits package are less likely to drive to work alone. A 2004 EPA survey found a 15 percent shift from drive-alone commuting to transit, vanpools, and carpools among employees of Best Workplaces for Commuters employers, compared to commuters working for other employers in the same zip code. In addition, the study found that contractors and temporary employees with access to some but not all of these benefits at Best Workplaces for Commuters worksites had a drive-alone rate of 7 percentage points lower than other employees working in the same zip codes.

A recent Transportation Research Board study also documents that when employers provide commuter benefits, transit agencies report a 10 to 60 percent increase in ridership. The study found that in most cases, "over 80% of new riders previously drove alone to work prior to using commuter benefits...and 35% of these new commuters reported increasing their use of transit for non-work trips, further increasing the environmental and energy benefits of employer-provided commuter benefits."¹

Employer Strategies

Best Workplaces for Commuters uses an array of strategies to introduce employers across the country to the value of commuter benefits and challenge them to meet the *National Standard of Excellence*. Best Workplaces for Commuters:

- Articulates a strong business case for offering benefits and being designated as one of the Best Workplaces for Commuters.
- Targets key metropolitan areas, national employers, and industry sectors that can serve as leaders in providing commuter benefits.
- Provides national recognition, resources, and tools for employers who are designated as Best Workplaces for Commuters.

Hacienda Business Park (Pleasanton, CA)

Hacienda provides facilities and services for over 450 employers and 17,500 employees including free transit, rideshare resources and amenities, cycling and pedestrian accommodations, an emergency ride home, and a comprehensive library of commuting information. Hacienda is unique among business districts in integrating its park-wide transportation services and amenities for businesses with transportation services for residents, working towards the ultimate goal of creating a low-mileage community.



In 2005, Hacienda:

- Reduced 8,000 metric tons of CO₂
 - Reduced 22 tons of NO_x
 - Saved 900,000 gallons of gasoline
 - Saved \$2 million in fuel costs
 - Reduced 19 million drive-alone commuting miles
-

¹ Analyzing the Effectiveness of Commuter Benefit Programs. Transit Cooperative Research Program Report 107. Pub. Transportation Research Board of the National Academies, 2005.

The Business Case for Commuter Benefits

First and foremost, employers are providing commuter benefits because it makes good business sense to do so.

Best Workplaces for Commuters provides business value while also having positive environmental results. Commuter benefits:

- Cost less than straight salary increases for employees.
- Reduce parking and facility costs.
- Provide certain tax advantages to employers.
- Improve worker productivity by reducing tardiness and stress due to drive-alone commuting.
- Improve corporate environmental performance and citizenship.

For many employers, parking costs are a significant expense. Depending on location and type of space, a single parking space can cost as much as \$30,000 to build and thousands of dollars annually to maintain. Many Best Workplaces for Commuters employers are finding that moving employees out of their cars saves money. For example, Emory University estimates construction costs for parking at \$12,100 to \$18,900 per space, whereas providing annual transit passes costs only \$297 per employee per year. Walt Disney Company in southern California saved more than \$2 million in construction costs by reducing the size of an employee parking garage by one level due to its ride-sharing program.

Well-managed telework programs can save companies on office space costs. For example, IBM has 25,000 employees who work out of their homes, saving the company more than 9.5 million square feet of office space. At \$10 to \$20 per square foot, IBM is saving between \$95 million and \$190 million per year on office space alone.

Salary Increase vs. Transit Subsidy

Providing commuter benefits encourages employees to reduce their drive-alone commuting and also saves employers money. It is less expensive for an employer to provide employees with a \$50 transit subsidy than it is to provide them with a \$50 increase in salary.

Cost to Employer		
Costs and Savings	Salary Increase	Transit Subsidy
Initial cost	\$50.00	\$50.00
FICA cost (7.65%)	\$4.00	\$0.00
Parking space operational costs	\$50.00	\$0.00
Corporate tax savings (40%)	-\$41.60	-\$20.00
Net employer cost/month	\$62.40	\$30.00

* Parking cost data from International Parking Institute 2004.

An employee also receives a greater benefit by receiving a transit subsidy instead of a pay increase.

Benefit to Employee		
Costs and Savings	Salary Increase	Transit Subsidy
Initial benefit	\$50.00	\$50.00
FICA cost (7.65%)	-\$4.00	\$0.00
State income tax (6%)	-\$3.00	\$0.00
Federal income tax (28%)	-\$14.00	\$0.00
Net employee benefit/month	\$29.00	\$50.00

Metro Area Best Workplaces for CommutersSM Campaigns

Best Workplaces for Commuters works with leaders in key metropolitan areas to challenge local employers to offer outstanding commuter benefits. Best Workplaces for Commuters supports regional “campaigns” that recruit employers and publicize lists of these local Best Workplaces for Commuters. Since the first list of Best Workplaces for Commuters was released in the San Francisco Bay Area in 2002, EPA has worked with coalitions in 14 major metropolitan areas to increase the prevalence of commuter benefits and the visibility of the companies that have received the designation. These campaigns highlight employers that are making a difference, while underscoring EPA’s commitment to help communities address local air quality and traffic congestion.

Most metropolitan area campaigns are run by a coalition of organizations that reach out to local employers. The coalitions typically include transportation, business, and human resource organizations, along with some of the

Tucson, Arizona

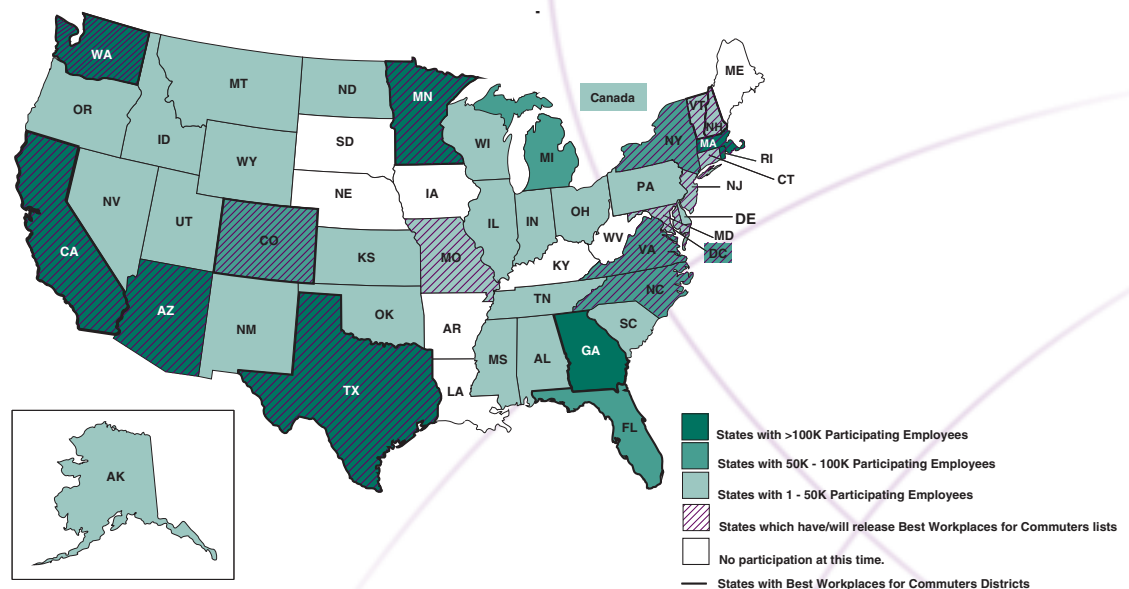
In 2003, a coalition of local organizations challenged the business community to be recognized as Best Workplaces for Commuters. As a result of two campaigns there are currently 45,094 employees, or 10 percent of the Greater Tucson area’s workforce, working for employers designated as Best Workplaces for Commuters, the highest percentage in the nation.

In 2005, Tucson, Arizona:

- Reduced 20,000 metric tons of CO₂
- Reduced 55 tons of NO_x
- Saved 2.3 million gallons of gasoline
- Saved \$5 million in fuel costs
- Reduced 49 million drive-alone commuting miles

region’s leading employers. These campaigns are responsible for reaching almost half of the companies that are currently designated as Best Workplaces for Commuters.

The National Reach of Best Workplaces for CommutersSM



Fourteen metro regions have released Best Workplaces for Commuters lists: Colorado; Greater Washington DC Region; Houston; Metro NY-NJ-CT; Minneapolis; New England; New Jersey; North Texas; Phoenix; Sacramento; San Francisco Bay Area; St. Louis; Triangle Region, North Carolina; and Tucson.

Best Workplaces for CommutersSM from the FORTUNE 500 Companies

The list of Best Workplaces for Commuters from the FORTUNE 500 Companies was released for a second time in 2005, again with significant results. In 2005, the list increased from 69 to nearly 90 employers with one or more qualifying worksites, with 52 companies having 10 percent or more of their workforce covered by commuter benefits.

Environmental Results	2004	2005
CO ₂ Reduced (metric tons per year)	183,000	275,000
NO _x Reduced (tons per year)	500	738
Fuel Saved (gallons per year)	21 million	31 million
Dollars Saved	\$38 million	\$69 million
Drive-Alone Commuting Miles Reduced	435 million	650 million

2005 Top 20 Best Workplaces for Commuters from the FORTUNE 500 Companies

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Intel | 11. EMC Corporation |
| 2. (tie) Oracle | 12. Boeing |
| 2. (tie) QUALCOMM | 13. (tie) Devon Energy |
| 4. Sun Microsystems | 13. (tie) El Paso Corporation |
| 5. Microsoft | 13. (tie) Nike, Inc. |
| 6. (tie) Cisco Systems | 16. Hewlett-Packard |
| 6. (tie) Texas Instruments | 17. (tie) IBM |
| 8. Advanced Micro Devices | 17. (tie) Reliant Energy |
| 9. Anadarko Petroleum Corporation | 19. Wyeth |
| 10. Safeco Insurance | 20. Apple |

Best Workplaces for CommutersSM from the FORTUNE 500 Companies

FORTUNE 500 companies employ approximately 24 million employees in the United States, 20 percent of the overall U.S. workforce. These business giants are some of the most successful and well-known companies in America, and they are viewed as market leaders for workplace practices that eventually take hold across the economy as a whole. Best Workplaces for Commuters is working to significantly increase the number and visibility of these national companies, which meet the *National Standard of Excellence*, thereby increasing the acceptance of commuter benefits.

EPA released the first list of Best Workplace for Commuters from the FORTUNE 500 Companies in 2004. The list included 69 companies employing a total of 400,000 employees and also highlighted the top 20 companies ranked by the percentage of their U.S. workforce receiving benefits that meet the *National Standard of Excellence*.

Intel

Intel was ranked #1 on the list of Best Workplaces for Commuters from the FORTUNE 500 Companies in 2004 for making commuter benefits available to more than 90 percent of its 48,000 U.S. employees.

In 2005, Intel:

- Reduced 20,000 metric tons of CO₂
- Reduced 53 tons of NO_x
- Saved 2.2 million gallons of gasoline
- Saved \$5 million in fuel costs
- Reduced 47 million drive-alone commuting miles

Industry Sectors

Best Workplaces for Commuters has identified key business sectors that present especially good opportunities to advance the market penetration of commuter benefits. One such sector is colleges and universities. Over the next decade, employment in this sector is expected to grow by almost 30 percent, faster than the national average employment growth.

In 2005, EPA conducted targeted outreach efforts to the college and university sector, as many colleges and universities have traffic and parking problems that can be alleviated through the implementation of commuter benefits. By working with human resource offices and facilities and environmental departments and by encouraging friendly inter-university competition, Best Workplaces for Commuters succeeded in qualifying 14 new colleges and universities employing more than 150,000 people since January 2005.

Additional industry sectors that have demonstrated strong participation in Best Workplaces for Commuters include information technology (IT), local and regional government, health care, and financial services. Best Workplaces for Commuters is developing strategies to successfully address these sectors along with colleges and universities in the future.

Texas Children's Hospital (Houston, TX)

Texas Children's Hospital offers its employees outstanding commuter benefits—access to bus passes, vanpool vouchers, a carpool allowance, shuttles, bike racks, and two different emergency ride home programs—helping improve employee morale and recruit new employees. Currently, more than 20 percent of the 6,100 employees participate in the transit election program.

The Texas Children's Hospital has:

- Reduced 2,800 metric tons of CO₂
- Reduced 8 tons of NO_x
- Saved 318,000 gallons of gasoline
- Saved \$700,000 in fuel costs
- Reduced 6.6 million drive-alone commuting miles



University of Michigan (U of M) at Ann Arbor

At U of M, commuter benefits offered to 28,000 employees include free bus passes, subsidized vanpools, park-and-ride lots, preferred vanpool parking, membership in the transportation management association, and electric bicycle recharging stations. These benefits have helped U of M avoid construction of more than 1,300 parking spaces, saving nearly \$17 million.

In 2005, U of M:

- Reduced 12,800 metric tons of CO₂
- Reduced 34 tons of NO_x
- Saved 1.5 million gallons of gasoline
- Saved \$3 million in fuel costs
- Reduced 30.5 million drive-alone commuting miles

Commuter Districts

Commuter Districts extend the potential of Best Workplaces for Commuters to a different set of actors: corporate and industrial business parks, shopping malls, business improvement districts, and downtown commercial areas. Developers, downtown managers, and business park owners are finding that they can attract and retain tenants more easily, charge competitive rents, and maintain better relations with their tenant companies by providing excellent transportation programs, including commuter benefits.

Currently, 20 districts around the country—representing 600,000 commuters—have earned the Best Workplaces for Commuters designation. Common benefits include: transit and vanpool subsidies, shuttle services, and bicycle and walking infrastructure. The number of Commuter Districts has increased more than 65 percent since January 2005. EPA forged a new partnership with the International Downtown Association (IDA) in summer 2005, and IDA issued a challenge to its members to be “early leaders” by becoming designated Commuter Districts. Within two months of this challenge, two new districts were designated, including downtown Tampa and Minneapolis.



Downtown Minneapolis

Downtown Minneapolis provides 83,000 employees who vanpool and carpool an outstanding commuter benefit—parking rates \$40 to \$115 less per month than regular rates. As the #1 ranked city in the nation for percentage of bike commuters, Downtown Minneapolis also boasts one of the most comprehensive bicycle lane systems of any city and provides a system of bike racks and enclosed lockers.

In 2005, Downtown Minneapolis:

- Reduced 38,000 metric tons of CO₂
 - Reduced 102 tons of NO_x
 - Saved 4.3 million gallons of gasoline
 - Saved \$9.5 million in fuel costs
 - Reduced 90 million drive-alone commuting miles
-

Cumberland Business District (Atlanta, GA)

One of the Cumberland Community Improvement District's (CID) most successful commuter services is a vanpool program—with 42 vanpools transporting hundreds of commuters into the Cumberland-Galleria area. The Cumberland CID's \$50 Flat Rate Vanpool Program is an outstanding example of a local community showing its strong commitment to a desirable community service.

In 2005, the Cumberland CID:

- Reduced 32,000 metric tons of CO₂
 - Reduced 86 tons of NO_x
 - Saved 3.6 million gallons of gasoline
 - Saved \$8 million in fuel costs
 - Reduced 76 million drive-alone commuting miles
-

The BWC Network

To achieve maximum leverage, effectiveness, and reach across the nation, Best Workplaces for Commuters developed a broad-based association of supporting organizations known as the “BWC Network.” The Network includes national partners plus more than 300 regional and grassroots leaders across the country. Network members share a commitment to increasing the availability of commuter benefits, expanding the visibility and effectiveness of Best Workplaces for Commuters, and reducing traffic and air pollution. Members include:

- State and local governments
- Transportation Management Associations/Organizations (TMAs/TMOs)
- Rideshare organizations
- EPA regional offices
- Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)
- Consulting companies
- Air quality agencies
- Private and public sector employers

BWC Network at a Glance

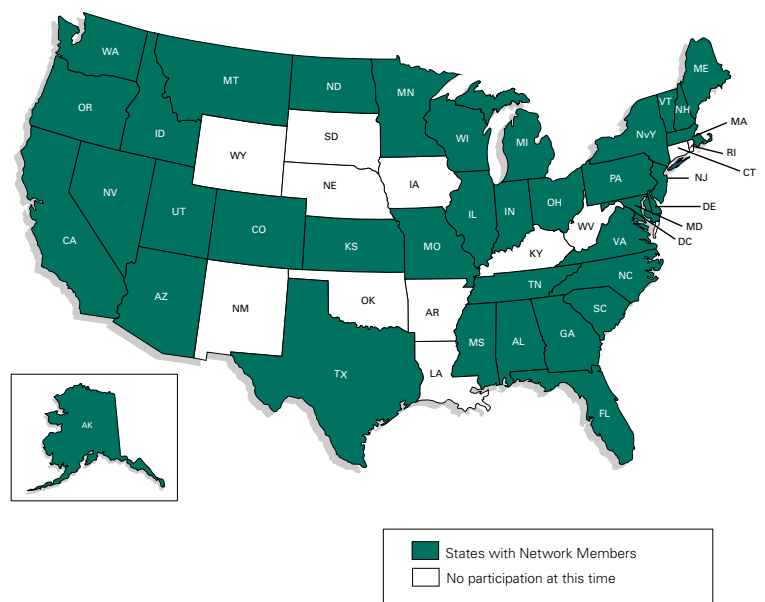
- More than 300 BWC Network members represent 78 major metropolitan areas with total population of 150 million.
- Active in 39 states and across 124 counties.



Race to Excellence

BWC Network members are committed to promoting the mission of Best Workplaces for Commuters. It is in appreciation of their enthusiasm and commitment in supporting commuter benefits that, in 2005, EPA launched the First Annual Race to Excellence. The Race to Excellence is an annual challenge that recognizes dedicated professionals throughout the country who promote commuter benefits, transportation choices, and the Best Workplaces for Commuters designation in their workplaces and throughout their local communities.

The National Reach of the BWC Network



Tools for Network Members

In 2004, EPA developed tools to help BWC Network members carry out their commitment to Best Workplaces for Commuters. For example, EPA created:

- A suite of tools accessible at <www.bwc.gov>, including a promotional kit with brochures, banners, posters, sample press releases, fact sheets, and step-by-step instructions on how to utilize Best Workplaces for Commuters in marketing and outreach efforts. All tools are available “off-the-shelf” or are customizable by Network members.
- New guidance for states and agencies involved in developing state air quality implementation plans (SIPs) or transportation conformity determinations. The guidance explains how these agencies can incorporate into their SIPs and conformity determinations those emission reductions resulting from programs achieving the Best Workplaces for Commuters designation.
- An updated, user-friendly calculator tool known as COMMUTER, which can be used to estimate the amount of criteria pollutants, CO₂ emissions, air toxics, and gallons of gasoline saved by a Best Workplaces for Commuters program.

These tools are indispensable to Network members by assisting them in recruiting new employers. In 2005, Network members helped 150 employers representing more than 130,000 employees become designated as Best Workplaces for Commuters.

For a complete, up-to-date list of Best Workplaces for Commuters, BWC Network Members, and Best Workplaces for Commuters Districts, please visit <www.bwc.gov>.

City of Henderson, Nevada

The City of Henderson, as one of the Best Workplaces for Commuters, offers its employees subsidized transit passes, preferred carpool parking, a compressed work week, emergency ride home services, commuting awards programs, and carpool matching opportunities.

The City of Henderson is also a member of the BWC Network because it recognizes the role it plays as a community and environmental leader. Working closely with the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC), it takes the lead in encouraging the use of alternative commute choices in the city of Henderson. It promotes commuter choices to other employers throughout the city of Henderson and work closely with the RTC to increase local transit ridership bus routes serving the community.

In 2005, the City of Henderson:

- Reduced 734 metric tons of CO₂
- Reduced 2 tons of NO_x
- Saved 83,361 gallons of gasoline
- Saved \$201,733 in fuel costs
- Reduced 1.7 million drive-alone commuting miles





Looking Ahead

Best Workplaces for Commuters has already reduced more than 3.4 million metric tons of CO₂ and saved more than 389 million gallons of fuel—one of the most effective fuel conservation programs in EPA's transportation portfolio. By 2012, Best Workplaces for Commuters is poised to transform the market for commuter benefits covering 25 percent of U.S. workers. This will result in annual greenhouse gas emissions being reduced by 15 million metric tons and annual U.S. fuel consumption decreasing by more than 1.7 billion gallons.

Best Workplaces for Commuters will continue to adapt and improve to ensure these accomplishments are met. Future plans include:

- Shifting EPA program leadership for metro-area campaigns to proven local leaders in the BWC Network who can take the Best Workplaces for Commuters tools and create success in their regions.

- Engaging employers in industry sectors, such as IT, healthcare, local government, and financial services, and encouraging them to adopt outstanding commuter benefits and be designated as Best Workplaces for Commuters.
- Increasing awareness of Best Workplaces for Commuters at the national level.

Now more than ever, with concerns about fuel availability and costs, the need for the United States to decrease its dependence on foreign sources of oil, and the necessity to reduce our impact on air quality and climate disruption, innovative programs like Best Workplaces for Commuters are leading the way to market-based solutions that meet all these goals.

What People Are Saying About Best Workplaces for CommutersSM

“During President Bush’s national call to conserve our country’s energy resources, small adjustments to our daily routine—like the way we get to and from work—can produce enormous combined benefits.”

— *Stephen L. Johnson,*
U.S. EPA Administrator

“Getting and retaining the best employees is critical to success in today’s business world. Becoming a [Best Workplaces for Commuters] Employer is a win-win way to benefit your company, your employees and your community.”

— *Jim Fairbaugh, Director of EHS&S,*
Hewlett-Packard Company

“Pitney Bowes is proud to be one of the Best Workplaces for Commuters from the FORTUNE 500 Companies. As a national leader in providing work/life benefits to our employees, easing the pressure and cost of their commute is another key way that we differentiate ourselves from our competition.”

— *Edward Houghton, Director of Workforce*
Effectiveness, Pitney Bowes

“ We’ve promoted alternatives to the single occupancy vehicle commute for many years—it’s just the right thing to do. It’s an added bonus that the EPA now recognizes our efforts and we qualify to be on the list of Best Workplaces for Commuters. ”

— *Dave Miller, Director of Parking and Transportation Services, University of Michigan*

“ America’s way to work is often mind-numbing and time-consuming. [Best Workplaces for Commuters] has helped employers de-stress the daily commute. ”

— *Forbes Magazine*

“ Companies that get on the EPA list can feature their Best Workplaces awards on corporate Web sites and in recruitment literature. Intel, EMC, IBM, Hewlett Packard, and Wyeth Pharmaceuticals all added commuter benefits to increase their chances of appearing on the list. ”

— *Business Week Online*

“ Indeed, parking, or lack thereof, is one of the primary reasons employers cite for creating an alternative transportation incentive program. Employers also cite increased productivity, environmental and traffic concerns, and an edge in the competition to recruit top talent. ”

— *Voice of San Diego*





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